

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-06 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13 /081 W
-----031722 261755Z /47

R 231000Z JAN 78

FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7175
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 0151

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, US, SF
SUBJ: ONE-HOUR DETENTION OF TWO US CORRESPONDENTS IN SOWETO

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

1. LARRY HEINZERLING, AP BUREAU CHIEF JOHANNESBURG, AND JOHN ROBERTS, VOA CORRESPONDENT, WERE DETAINED BY POLICE FOR ONE HOUR JANUARY 22 ON LEAVING ST. FRANCIS ANGLICAN CHURCH IN SOWETO WHERE THEY HAD BEEN ATTENDING MEETING CONVOKED BY SOWETO ACTION COMMITTEE. BOTH AMCITS HAD LEGITIMATE PASSES, BUT THE PASSES EXPIRED AT 1600 AND THEY WERE PICKED UP SHORTLY THEREAFTER AND TAKEN TO PROTEA POLICE STATION IN SOWETO. AFTER BEING QUESTIONED, THEY WERE RELEASED, WITHOUT CHARGES BEING MADE AND WITHOUT HAVING BEEN MISTREATED.

2. THREE OTHER FOREIGN AND TWO SOUTH AFRICAN NEWSMEN WERE DETAINED AT SAME TIME AND WERE SIMILARLY RELEASED.

3. MEETING WAS ATTENDED BY ABOUT TWO THOUSAND PERSONS.
WITH FULL AUDIENCE AGREEMENT, SPEAKERS CALLED FOR BOYCOTT
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OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTION IN SOWETO AND FOR CONDEMNATION BANTU EDUCATION.
JOHNSON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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